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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/606,310	ITOH, YOSHINORI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	David N. Spector	2873	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.			
1. This communication is responsive to <u>FAOM</u> .			
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-10</u> .			
3. The drawings filed on 23 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.			
 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b)			
 Attachment(s) 1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. ☑ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/C Paper No./Mail Date 0703 & 0903 4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material 	5. ☐ Notice of Informal P 6. ☐ Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Dat 7. ☐ Examiner's Amendn 8. ☑ Examiner's Stateme 9. ☑ Other <u>DETAILED Ar</u>	(PTO-413), e nent/Comment ent of Reasons for Allo	·
		Primary Examiner Art Unit: 2873	

DETAILED ACTION - ALLOWANCE

Reasons for Allowance

- 1. Claims 1-10 are allowed. A statement of the examiner's reasons for allowance is provided in the following paragraph.
- The instant application is deemed to be directed to a nonobvious improvement 2. over the inventions in the prior art disclosed by applicant (inter alia: U.S. Patent Nos. 4,733,952; 4,465,343; 5,434,710; 5,872,660; 6,081,389; 6,124,987; 6,172,818; 6,191,896; 6,243,213; 6,351,337; 6,476,977; 6,493,142) as being a representative examples in the art to which the instant invention pertains. In particular, said improvement provides a compact wide-angle zoom lens in a well-known arrangement of three moveable lens units; wherein aberrations engendered in zooming (e.g. which typically tend to increase as the angle-of-view increases) are controlled by particular limitations imposed on the distances extant between the second and third lens units at the wide-angle and telephoto states of the lens, as recited in the two conditional expressions of applicant's (sole) independent claim 1 (Claim 1, Line 13-14). The prior art taken either singly or in combination fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitations of applicant's independent claims, in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 would be proper. The claimed invention is therefore considered to be in condition for allowance as being novel and nonobvious over prior art.
- 3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Application/Control Number: 10/606,310

Art Unit: 2873

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Page 3

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Other Remarks/Information

4. Any other inquiry concerning this communication, or earlier communications from

the examiner, should be directed to David N. Spector whose telephone number is (571)

272-2338. The examiner can normally be reached at this number Monday through Fri-

day between 6:00 AM and 2:30 PM. The fax number for the organization where this ap-

plication is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

July 13, 2004

David N. Spector PRIMARY EXAMINER

ART UNIT 2873